

## An ADE Newsletter for Test Coordinators

February 2016



# The Examiner

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**Irene Hunting, Deputy Associate Superintendent**

## Announcements

### **Large Increase in AzMERIT Computer-Based Testing**

The number of schools and students expected to participate in computer-based AzMERIT testing has jumped dramatically. Approximately 70% of schools and 70% of students are expected to participate in the computer-based Spring 2016 AzMERIT test administration.

Only the first administration of AzMERIT had fewer than half of students participating in the computer-based assessment. For the second administration of the AzMERIT, the Fall 2015 AzMERIT EOC administration, approximately 80% of the students participated in the computer-based assessment.

Paper-based testing requires significant lead time to print and ship materials in advance of testing. This lead time is difficult to accommodate for fall testing and is virtually impossible to accommodate for summer testing. Given the challenges of providing paper materials for summer and fall testing and the rapid movement to having the majority of students participating in the computer-based AzMERIT, starting with the Summer 2016 administration, all Summer and Fall AzMERIT EOC test administrations will be computer-based only.

AzMERIT is designed to be a computer-based test. Students who participate in the computer-based assessment have a richer testing experience and have access to a broader range of accessibility tools. ADE is committed to ensuring that students participating in the computer-based assessment have an optimal experience. Both the ADE and AIR teams are ready to provide computer-based schools with whatever support is needed during this spring's test administration and all future test administrations.

### **Computer-Based AZELLA Stages III, IV, and V**

Given the shift to computer-based achievement testing, it's time to look at shifting English language proficiency testing for students in Grades 3-12 to computer-based testing. ADE is currently exploring the idea of making AZELLA Reassessment Stages III, IV, and V computer-based beginning in Spring 2018 and the AZELLA Placement Stages III, IV, and V computer-based beginning in school year 2018-2019. AZELLA testing for students in Kindergarten through Grade 2 would remain as is.

A computer-based AZELLA would eliminate the need for local scoring of the Placement writing prompt, local key-entry of the student's Placement test responses, the use of a phone for the Speaking test administration, storage of Placement test materials, the receipt and return of Reassessment test materials. The technical requirements for the computer-based AZELLA, both for devices and bandwidth, would be very similar to the requirements for AzMERIT.

ADE is interested in your thoughts and concerns about moving to computer-based testing for AZELLA Stages III, IV, and V. Please let us know what you think using this [link](#).

## Spring 2016 Testing

### Testing Windows

<b>March 14 – April 22</b>	AIMS Science Test Window
<b>March 28 – April 8</b>	AzMERIT Paper-Based Test Window
<b>March 28 – May 6*</b> *Writing must be completed by April 15	AzMERIT Computer-Based Test Window

### Important AIMS Science Activities

Date	Activity
<b>February 29 – March 3</b>	<b>Delivery of AIMS Science Materials</b> If your district/charter will be on Spring break during the delivery window, contact UPS (or FedEx Freight) to have the materials held until your district/charter is back in session. To have materials held, you must have the tracking number that can be located in <i>PearsonAccess</i> once materials have been shipped.
<b>March 4 – April 8</b>	<b>Additional Order Window</b>
<b>March 28 – April 26</b>	<b>Return of Materials to Pearson</b> New for this year, the scorable test materials and the nonscorable test materials will be shipped to separate addresses. It is important that the correct scorable and nonscorable UPS Shipping Label or FedEx Bill of Lading is used on the return shipments.  Materials can be returned to Pearson as soon as all students have completed testing. It is not necessary to wait until the end of the test window. All AIMS Science materials must be picked up and out of the district by April 26. District Test Coordinators must verify that the materials have been picked up as scheduled.
<b>May 23</b>	<b>Score Reports and Data Files posted on <i>PearsonAccess</i></b>
<b>June 6</b>	<b>Student Score Reports to Districts</b>
<b>June 20</b>	<b>Last day for Corrections to Reports and Removal of Reports and Data Files from <i>PearsonAccess</i></b>



**Important AzMERIT Tasks**

Date	Task	
Ongoing	Task 2 CBT & PBT	Add or update users in TIDE. Verify that appropriate staff members have access to TIDE.
Ongoing	Task 3 CBT	Download AzMERIT Secure Browser to devices that will be used for testing.
February 4 - Prior to student testing	Task 8 CBT & PBT	Add students who are missing from your schools in TIDE.
March 14	Task 10 CBT & PBT	Receive AzMERIT testing materials shipments.
March 16 - 17	Task 11 PBT	Additional Order Window If your district/charter will be on Spring Break during the delivery window, contact FedEx to have the materials held until your district/charter is back in session. To have materials held, you must have the tracking number that can be located in AzMERIT Portal once materials have been shipped.
March 28 – May 6	Task 12 CBT & PBT	Administer AzMERIT test based on dates above.
April 11 - 12	Task 13 PBT	Return testing materials for scoring. All materials must be picked up by FedEx by end of day April 12.

For an extended *Spring 2016 District Test Coordinator Important Tasks Checklist* for AzMERIT testing, download the document [here](#).

All additional AzMERIT resources or forms that may be needed during testing, like the TIDE Student Data File Template to upload new students into TIDE or the electronic copies of the *Test Administration Directions*, are located on the AzMERIT portal [here](#) or on the ADE website [here](#).

**Task 3 Notes**Update Regarding iOS devices

Since the November issue of the *The Examiner*, AIR has determined that it can support devices using iOS 9.2 for Spring 2016 testing. Please refer to the [Secure Browsers](#) document for additional information regarding supported devices and requirements.

Update Regarding Chromebooks

Currently Chrome OS 41-46 are supported. However, Chrome OS 47 and 48 have been released. AIR is currently testing these new releases and hopes to have them added to the list of supported browsers before the AzMERIT test window opens. Any information about the new releases will be added to the Announcements and Supported Browsers page on the AzMERIT portal.

If you have any questions about AzMERIT, please email [AzMERIT@azed.gov](mailto:AzMERIT@azed.gov).

**Task 8 Notes****Enrollments in TIDE**

As scheduled, ADE created the final TIDE upload file based on enrollments in SAIS, AzEDS, and Student-Teacher-Course Connection (STCC) as of close of business on Wednesday, January 27. Enrollments for Grades 3-8 were as expected. Enrollments in EOC tests were at least 20,000 students lower than expected for every EOC test. This lower than expected EOC enrollment was due to students not being enrolled in STCC in the courses aligned to the EOC test. Sometimes this was due to districts not having uploaded their 100<sup>th</sup> day enrollments. However, in some of the districts with certified 100<sup>th</sup> day enrollments, no students were enrolled in courses aligned to the EOC test.

Please carefully review TIDE enrollments for EOC tests.

**PBT** - Districts with missing EOC enrollments in their paper-based schools need to upload their own EOC enrollments by March 15 (Task 8), place an additional order for the needed EOC test materials (including blank Pre-ID Labels) on March 16 or 17 (Task 11), and print Pre-ID Labels for the students uploaded by the district/school.

**CBT** - Districts with missing EOC enrollments in their computer-based schools need to upload their own EOC enrollments at least one day in advance of administering tests.

**No More Double Testing**

As was announced in the November issue of *The Examiner*, students enrolled in high school level course work prior to being enrolled in high school are no longer required to test on both their grade level test and the appropriate EOC test. These students are required to take only the appropriate EOC test. Paper-Based schools will receive student Pre-ID Labels for both the grade level test and the EOC test. Only the EOC label needs to be used. For example, a Grade 8 student taking regular Grade 8 English and high school level Algebra I will take the Grade 8 ELA test and the EOC Algebra I test and will **not** take the Grade 8 Math test.

**AzMERIT Support Materials**

Some new support materials have recently been posted to the AzMERIT website.

The [AzMERIT Item Specifications](#) are now available. These resource documents define the content and format of the test and test items for item writers and reviewers. Each Item Specifications document indicates the alignment of items with the Arizona standards. It also serves to provide all stakeholders with information about the scope and function of assessment items. The Item Specifications assist educators in understanding how assessment items are developed in alignment with the standards for English language arts and math.

[AzMERIT Annotated Writing Samples](#) are now available. Each essay has annotations which explain the reasoning for the score the paper received as well as a description of the task and additional notes about scoring. Examples of student responses represent some of the various combinations of the score points across the scoring are now available. These annotated samples provide sample student responses which were scored using the AzMERIT domains. Currently there is one sample for each grade band.

### **Spring 2016 AzMERIT Results/Reporting Dates**

ADE is still working with AIR to establish the dates when Spring 2016 AzMERIT results will be available in ORS and when paper reports will be delivered to schools. Results will be available no later than mid-June, but we are still working on getting results out by the end of May. We will send an email to district test coordinators with finalized Spring 2016 reporting dates, as soon as we have them.

Reports for Spring 2017 should be earlier than Spring 2016.

### **Longitudinal AzMERIT Results included on Family Report Starting Spring 2016**

Starting with Spring 2016, the AzMERIT Family Report will include longitudinal results. These results will be included at the bottom of the back side of the report. Mock-ups of the AzMERIT Family Reports with longitudinal results are available [here](#).

### **Spring 2015 AzMERIT Results in AZDash**

The inclusion of Spring 2015 AzMERIT results in AZDash has been delayed until at least April 2016.

### **Future AzMERIT Test Windows**

#### **Summer 2016 – EOC only - CBT only**

Monday, June 13 – Thursday, July 21, 2016\*

\*Writing must be completed by Friday, July 8

#### **Fall 2016 – EOC only - CBT only**

Monday, October 24 – Friday, December 2, 2016\*

\*Writing must be completed by Friday, November 18

#### **Spring 2017**

PBT – Monday, March 27 – Friday, April 7, 2017

CBT – Monday, March 27 – Friday, May 5, 2017\*

\*Writing must be completed by Friday, April 21, 2017

A detailed testing calendar for School Year 2016-2017 is posted [here](#) on the Test Coordinator web page.

**Alternate Assessment**

The testing season is upon us and the Alternate Assessment unit would like to officially announce that the NCSC grant and our participation in the development of a new alternate assessment for ELA and Mathematics has ended. As the fiscal agent for the NCSC Post Grant Governance group, Arizona and nine other states will now be known as the Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA). The NCSC alternate assessment will now be referred to as MSAA and future enhancements and development will be initiated by MSAA with our vendor. This was approved by our State Board of Education December 2015. We want to assure you that the test design, test platform, training, etc., will remain similar to what was administered last spring.



Please click on [this link](#) to view a short video message.



Thank you to all Test Coordinators and Test Administrators for providing feedback and sharing your concerns with our new alternate assessment. Since the Spring 2015 administration was our baseline, the MSAA states have determined that there will only be minor changes or clarifications made to the MSAA test for the Spring 2016 administration. With a new test, making major changes can create even more confusion. We do want to inform you that we are working on solutions to address the major concerns regarding the length of the assessment and training requirements for future administrations.

**ADEConnect**

In order to access Alternate Assessments (Student Selector Application, AIMS A Science Assessment) you have to ensure that accounts have been created in ADEConnect by your entity administrator.

**If you have any questions regarding Alternate Assessments, please email [AssessingSWDs@azed.gov](mailto:AssessingSWDs@azed.gov).**

## Timeline for both Alternate Assessments MSAA (NCSC) and AIMS A Science

Task	Tool	Date	Person Responsible
Register Student for MSAA(NCSC) and AIMS A Science	Student Selector Application in ADEConnect	January 5 through January 31 *If you missed this deadline contact the <b>Alternate Assessment Unit</b>	Alternate Assessment Test Coordinator
AIMS A Science Performance Task Test Materials Delivered	Shipment from ADE *Retain Return Postage Paid Label	February 3 through February 12, 2016	Alternate Assessment Test Coordinator
Order Braille cards for students Grades 3 and 4 only and Procedures Manual for Administering MSAA to students who are deaf, blind, or deaf-blind (All grades)	Excel Spreadsheet returned to Alternate Assessment Unit	March 1	Alternate Assessment Test Coordinator
Identify students in Grades 3 and 4 only who are non-verbal	Excel Spreadsheet returned to Alternate Assessment Unit	March 1	Excel Spreadsheet returned to Alternate Assessment Unit
<i>Test Administration Manuals (TAM)</i> delivered to District TCs	Based on number of students registered in MSAA System	Week of March 7	Alternate Assessment Test Coordinators
AIMS A Science Administration	AIMS A Science Application in ADEConnect	February 15 through March 31, 2016	Alternate Assessment Test Coordinators and Test Administrators
Complete Required Online Training Modules *TAs must pass final quiz	MSAA System (will use logon generated and sent from vendor) This logon will also be used for any access needed to the MSAA system	Late February * <b>Access to complete Certification (Final Quiz) will open March 15, 2016</b>	Alternate Assessment Test Coordinator and Test Administrators
Administer MSAA for ELA and Mathematics	MSAA System	March 30 through May 13, 2016	Test Administrators
Note: Additional responsibilities will be addressed in the training modules and <i>Test Administration Manual (TAM)</i> .			
Note: An email will be send to all Alternate Assessment Test Coordinators with specific timelines as those dates arise.			

**Training**

MSAA Online Training Modules will be available late February. Watch for an email with the specific dates and instructions.

All Test Coordinators and Test Administrators will receive an email directly from the MSAA Alternate Assessment System with login information and access. If you or your test administrators do not receive an email by February 26, 2016, please notify our office 602.542.8239 immediately. Many districts and charters experienced issues with firewalls preventing the emails from the MSAA Assessment System.

Test Coordinators will be responsible for completing the training modules assigned for Test Coordinators. If a Test Coordinator will also be administering the MSAA Alternate Assessment, you will be required to complete and pass the final quiz for the Test Administrator training as well.

Test Administrators will be responsible for completing all modules as well as passing a final quiz with 80% accuracy before access to the test and testing materials will be available. The training modules are broken down into short modules based on test administration topics. There are approximately 13 modules and each module is no longer than 35 minutes.

NEW!! This year, the MSAA training modules will be available earlier - however the certification process (access to the final quiz for TAs or anyone administering MSAA) will be available beginning March 15, 2016.

Recommendations for completing online training modules:

- Have each Test Administrator complete one module per day during the training window; this will assure all modules are completed within the training window.
- Bring all Test Administrators into a computer lab to complete as a group. Each Test Administrator will still be required to take the final quiz individually once the final quiz window opens.
- Allow Test Administrators at same schools or schools close in proximity to complete together. Each Test Administrator will still be required to take the final quiz individually.
- The Alternate Assessment Unit can provide a professional development hours certificate for participation in the MSAA Training.

**Test Administration**

Test Administrators will have access to sample items within the MSAA System (<https://www.ncscassessment.org/practice>). These sample items can provide insight as to what the items will look like for MSAA. In addition, if a student will need one of the Assessment Features (Answer Masking, Audio Player, Alternate Color Themes, Increase Size of Text and Graphics, Increase Volume, Line Reader Tool and Read Aloud and Reread Item Directions, Response Options, Passage) then it is important for the Test Administrators to know how to activate these features for MSAA and for the student to be familiar with these features within the MSAA System.

**The test window will open March 30, 2016 and will close May 13, 2016. Students will be assessed online for both ELA (including writing) and Mathematics.**

### Important Issues

#### Students in Grade 11

All eligible students in Grade 11 must participate in MSAA regardless if an IEP has “exempted” or determined the student would not be participating in alternate assessment (AIMS A) past Grade 10. MSAA is based on the new standards and assessing students in Grade 11, therefore participation is required for these students and must be addressed in the student’s IEP.

#### MSAA Testing Procedures

It is important to note that during the two Pilots, there were several issues with following the policies or testing procedures when administering the NCSC Alternate Assessment. We want to improve in the following areas: closing tests, utilizing the scripted *Directions for Test Administration*, and uploading evidence for the writing items.

*It is important to ensure that all Test Administrators are aware of all MSAA policies and testing procedures and follow them properly. If these policies and testing procedures are not followed properly; it could result in a student’s test being invalidated.*

Test Coordinators must report all test incidents directly to ADE’s Alternate Assessment Director. If you or any Test Administrator has any questions, please direct them to ask for clarification before an incident could occur.

#### Closing a student’s test

It is imperative that Test Administrators understand the MSAA Policies and Procedures for closing a student’s test. A student’s test can be **Closed** provided the student meets one of three criteria:

- **No Consistent or Observable Mode of Communication**

There is only **one reason** to select the **No Consistent or Observable Mode of Communication** - if the student was not able to display a consistent communication mode during the Student Response Check and the student did not respond to any of the first 4 questions administered in either ELA or Mathematics. If a Test Administrator indicates a test was closed due to **No Consistent or Observable Mode of Communication**, ADE will be examining reports to ensure MSAA Policies were followed. An error in invoking this Early Stopping Rule could result in an incident report. If you, or a Test Administrator, has any questions about closing a test, please contact ADE’s Alternate Assessment Unit at 602-542-8239.

- Student withdrew – the student is no longer enrolled at that school.
- No longer eligible – student does not meet the participation criteria. Please refer to ADE’s MSAA Webpage under the Eligibility tab.

**A district may have additional requirements such as requiring a TA to contact the TC before a test can be closed or only TCs can close tests for students.**

**Accommodations**

It is important that both Test Coordinators and Test Administrators are aware of the MSAA Accommodation policies. These are covered in the *Test Administration Manual* (TAM) and in the training modules. Please note that the accommodation for a scribe, which allows a familiar adult to enter in a student's response into the MSAA System and record a student's response for the writing constructed responses, must be documented in the student's IEP to be allowed for use on the MSAA. This is a major change from AIMS A, which allowed any accommodation that was used routinely during instruction and documented in the student's IEP could be used. MSAA is very specific about accommodations or what and how a Test Administrator will present the MSAA items. The guidance is provided at the item level through the scripted *Directions for Test Administration*. If you or any Test Administrators have any questions about MSAA Accommodations, contact the Alternate Assessment Unit at 602.542.8239.

**Assessing Students who are Blind, Deaf or Deaf/Blind**

There will be an additional Manual with procedures for assessing students that meet criteria as a student who is blind, deaf, or deaf/blind. MSAA will also be providing **Braille items for Grades 3 and 4 only**. In order to ensure that a student needing these items will receive them, the Test Coordinator must make a request during the MSAA Special Order Window (more information about this will be coming and sent directly to Test Coordinators).

**2015-2016 AIMS A Science Administration**

If eligible students were not identified in the Alternate Assessment Student Selector Application (during the window January 5 – 31) the AIMS A Test Coordinator must contact the Alternate Assessment office. Eligible students not included in the Student Selector can be manually added by the Test Coordinator beginning February 15, 2016. Once the student has been successfully added into AIMS A application, we will then confirm and determine **if** additional test materials will need to be sent or the school may have to share appropriate test materials.

The AIMS A Test window opens February 15, 2015 and will close March 31, 2015. **We highly recommend that all Test Administrators begin administering the AIMS A Science tests as soon as possible since the MSAA training will overlap with the AIMS A Science test window.**

If you have not submitted the No Response Option Form, please do so as soon as possible, we want to ensure that all student tests are ready once the test window opens. Please refer to the criteria for requesting a No Response Option for a student participating the AIMS A Science Assessment in the *2016 AIMS A Test Coordinator Manual* (page 9). <http://www.azed.gov/assessment/files/2015/10/2016-aims-a-science-test-coordinator-rev-oct2015.pdf>

**AIMS A Science Performance Tasks TEST MATERIALS**

Test materials will be shipped to PEAs starting the week of February 1, 2016. Once materials are received the Alternate Assessment Test Coordinator must complete the enclosed inventory sheet. Inventory materials and report any discrepancies to us immediately at 602.542.8239.

**Don't forget to remove and store the ATTACHED return postage paid label so you can return the performance tasks test materials to us. You will begin returning these test materials once the test window closes. We expect that all test materials will be returned no later than the end of April.**

We are looking forward to another successful Alternate Assessment administration season, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Alternate Assessment Unit at 602.542.8239 or you can email us at [AssessingSWDs@azed.gov](mailto:AssessingSWDs@azed.gov).

**Spring 2016 AZELLA Reassessment****AZELLA Sample Test Update**

The AZELLA Sample Test materials have been improved to include Anchor Sets for the Sample Extended Writing Items. Each Anchor Set includes a copy of the prompt, the scoring rubric, and examples and explanations of students' responses at the various score points. These sets will be useful as students prepare for the AZELLA. As students practice their writing using the AZELLA scoring rubrics they will better understand scoring expectations. All Sample Test materials, including the new Anchor Sets can be found under the AZELLA Resources tab [here](#).

**Reassessment Test Window**

The test window opens on **February 8, 2016**, and closes on **March 25, 2016**.

**Students to be Tested**

Students who **NEED** to be reassessed with the Spring 2016 AZELLA Reassessment are the following.

- All ELL students (SDELL70 report shows the most recent Overall Proficiency Level of less than Proficient and/or SDELL73 Group Code 1 or 2)
- All students eligible for ELL services but have been withdrawn from the program by their parents (SDELL70 report shows the most recent Overall Proficiency Level of less than Proficient **and** SDELL73 Group Code 4). These students will continue to participate in the annual AZELLA Reassessment until they reach an overall proficiency level of Proficient. Parents may opt out of services but may not opt out of testing.

Students who **DON'T NEED** to be administered the Reassessment are the following.

- Students who were administered the AZELLA Placement Test **after** January 1, 2016.
- Students who scored Proficient on the test's Overall Proficiency Level and are no longer eligible for ELL services - Initial Fluent English Proficiency (IFEP) or Fluent English Proficiency (FEP) students.
- Students who have been withdrawn from ELL services due to Special Ed and show a SPED need in SAIS. The SDELL70 Report must show "Most Recent SPED Withdrawal" as the MOST current activity listed on the entire SDELL70 Report.

AZELLA Test Coordinators need to create a list of students who should participate in the Spring 2016 AZELLA Reassessment based on the criteria listed above.

***To Test or Not To Test Presentation***

The *To Test or Not To Test* presentation from the 2015 OELAS Conference has been posted on the AZELLA webpage under the Test Coordinator tab and linked [here](#). This presentation reviews how to read a student's SDELL70 to determine whether or not a student needs to be tested and with which AZELLA test. Ten different real student reports are reviewed.

**Reassessment Additional Orders**

Spring 2016 AZELLA Reassessment materials were delivered to districts/charters by January 28, 2016. If the materials received are not sufficient to test all students requiring a Spring 2016 AZELLA Reassessment, you may place an additional order. The Spring 2016 AZELLA Reassessment Additional Order window will be open January 29 through March 11, 2016. ADE will review and approve additional orders. Be prepared to justify every additional order.

**Pre-ID Labels**

The Pre-ID Label file was generated based on the SDELL73 Report in late November. Due to a number of factors including the time lag since the generation of the Pre-ID Label file and the preliminary nature of the SDELL73 Report, not all students who are required to test may receive a Pre-ID Label. Similarly, not all students who receive a label may be required to test.

Students who should be reassessed but did not receive a Pre-ID Label or have incorrect information (Student Name, SAIS ID, Date of Birth, Grade) on the label, will need their demographic information hand bubbled. Pre-ID Labels received for students who are no longer enrolled, for students who are not to be reassessed, and any labels with incorrect information, should be returned unused with the nonscorable materials to Pearson.

**Students Who Transfer During the Reassessment Testing Window**

When a student transfers schools during the AZELLA testing window of February 8 through March 25, the new school must first check the student's SDELL70 Report to verify the student's test history. If it appears that a Reassessment is needed, contact the previous school to confirm whether or not a Spring Reassessment has been administered.

To ensure that students who transfer schools during this testing window only receive **one** Spring Reassessment, ADE has prepared a form *Record for Transferred PHLOTE Student* which is posted on the AZELLA webpage under the "Test Coordinator" tab and linked [here](#). The form is to be completed by the new school prior to administering a Reassessment Test to these newly transferred students. Keep the completed form in the student's cumulative file.

**Speaking Test Administration**

Be sure Test Administrators are familiar with the Speaking Test administration instructions before administering the Speaking Test. The Speaking Test must be administered appropriately so as to avoid incomplete Speaking Tests, mismatched Speaking Lithocodes, or duplicate Speaking Lithocodes. ADE has produced the document, *Spring AZELLA Reassessment Speaking Test Administration Tips*, which is posted on the AZELLA webpage under the "Test Coordinator" tab and linked [here](#).

**Mismatched Speaking Lithocodes and/or duplicate Speaking Lithocodes may result in delayed Spring 2016 AZELLA Reports.****Special Education ELL Students**

In rare cases, some students dually labelled as Special Education and ELL might not be able to fully participate in all four domains of the AZELLA Reassessment test. For these students, please contact the AZELLA State Test Coordinator ([AZELLA@azed.gov](mailto:AZELLA@azed.gov)), prior to administering the Spring 2016 AZELLA Reassessment for directions on how to proceed in these special circumstances.

**Testing Incidents**

Any violation of test security or mis-administration of the Spring 2016 AZELLA Reassessment must be reported to the AZELLA State Test Coordinator immediately. The Testing Incident Report Form link is [here](#).



**Returning Test Materials**

All Spring 2016 AZELLA Reassessment test materials, both Scorable and Nonscorable, must be returned to Pearson during the return window of **March 21 through April 1, 2016**. Prepaid UPS shipping labels have been provided for this purpose.

Please review the Reassessment Test Training, Session 3 – slides 19 – 39 and carefully follow the detailed directions included in the *Spring 2016 AZELLA Test Coordinator's Manual* for the packaging and shipping of Scorable and Nonscorable materials.

AZELLA District Test Coordinators must make arrangements with UPS for the pick-up of the Spring 2016 AZELLA Reassessment Test materials. You may call UPS between March 18 – March 30, 2016, at 1.800.823.7459 to schedule your pick-up date. UPS requires at least one day notice prior to the scheduled pick-up date. There should be only one pick-up scheduled at one location for all of the district's or charter's AZELLA Reassessment test materials. UPS pick-ups may occur as early as March 21, 2016, but must occur no later than April 1, 2016. The district/charter will be responsible for shipping costs for all materials shipped after April 1, 2016.

**Incorrectly packaged materials, incorrectly shipped materials, late shipped materials may result in delayed Spring 2016 AZELLA reports.**

**Spring 2016 AZELLA Reassessment Reports**

PDF versions of all paper reports and the electronic *Student Data File* will be posted on *PearsonAccess*. **Spring 2016 AZELLA Reassessment reports will be available electronically through *PearsonAccess* on May 5, 2016. Paper reports will be received by May 17, 2016.**

**OELAS Update****SAVE THE DATES!**

The spring OELAS PELL Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at the Black Canyon Conference Center. Registration for this informative meeting will open on March 1, 2016. We hope to see you there!

A new session of the SEI Course 45-hour Completion Course will begin on March 21, 2016. Registration will open on February 22, 2016.

NAEP and International Assessments

**NAEP 2016 – FOR PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS ONLY**

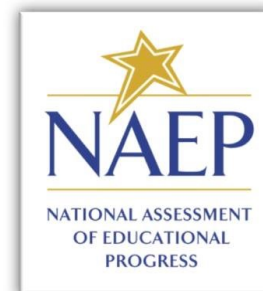
**NAEP 2016 Assessment Window**

January 25 – March 4, 2016

National Arts at Grade 8

Digital Based (Tablet) Pilot Writing Grade 8

Digital Based (Tablet) Pilot Math and Reading Grades 4 and 8



***Next Steps for NAEP School Coordinators***

- Notify parents/guardians of sampled students (if you have not done this already)
- Manage school and/or teacher questionnaires
- Encourage and motivate students to do their best
- Finalize assessment arrangements

Please know how much we appreciate all of your hard work in preparing for NAEP. NAEP asks me to occasionally observe assessment administrations in Arizona schools as part of our Data Quality Assurance Program. I am only there to observe NAEP. I will notify the District Assessment Coordinators as well as the NAEP School Coordinator prior to the observation.

The Arizona NAEP office is here to support you to ensure a successful administration of NAEP at your site. If you need any assistance please contact your NAEP Representative or contact [Shelly.Pollnow@azed.gov](mailto:Shelly.Pollnow@azed.gov) 602.542.5031.

**PIRLS 2016 – FOR PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS ONLY**

**PIRLS 2016 Assessment Window(every 5 years)**

March 1-May 27, 2016

***Next Steps for PIRLS School Coordinators***

- 100% of our PIRLS schools have submitted their class lists. Thank you!
- Submit your student lists by February 8
- Send your letterhead for parent permission notices by February 8
- Schedule your assessment times with your PIRLS Representative as soon as possible
- Test and confirm your USB stick by February 8

Schools participating in PIRLS: You may contact [pirls@rti.org](mailto:pirls@rti.org) the PIRLS Hotline at 866-800-9176 or Kimrey Miller at [kem@rti.org](mailto:kem@rti.org).

**PISA 2015**

PISA 2015 results will be released December 2016. Thank you to all who participated in this international assessment.

Follow NAEP on social media:



If you have any questions regarding NAEP, please contact Shelly Pollnow, Ed.D., Director of the NAEP Program and International Assessments for Arizona at phone: 602.542.5031 or email: [NAEP@azed.gov](mailto:NAEP@azed.gov)